

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for inhibition of initiation of primary or metastatic tumor growth in an individual suffering from or at risk for a tumor type that expresses  $\alpha 6 \beta 4$  integrin, comprising the steps of administering to the individual a therapeutic agent effective to reduce the amount of active  $\alpha 6 \beta 4$  integrin, at least in a portion of the individual where initiation of primary or metastatic tumor growth may occur, by targeting and inhibiting the signaling portion of the beta 4 portion of the integrin.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the individual is human.
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antibody.
4. (withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antisense oligonucleotide.
5. (withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the therapeutic agent is an RNAi species.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the individual is suffering from or at risk for a tumor type selected from the group consisting of breast, and prostate cancers.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of administering to the individual an inhibitor of a receptor protein tyrosine kinase.
- 8-12. (canceled)
13. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the receptor protein tyrosine kinase

is selected from the group consisting of ErbB2, EGF-R, Met and Ron.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of administering to the individual an inhibitor of a receptor protein tyrosine kinase.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the receptor protein tyrosine kinase is selected from the group consisting of ErbB2, EGF-R, Met and Ron.

16. (currently amended) A method for inhibition of initiation of primary or metastatic tumor growth in an individual suffering from or at risk for a tumor type that expresses  $\alpha 6 \beta 4$  integrin, comprising administering to the individual a therapeutic agent effective to reduce the amount of active  $\alpha 6 \beta 4$  integrin at least in a portion of the individual where initiation of primary or metastatic tumor growth may occur by targeting targeting and inhibiting the signaling portion of the beta 4 portion of the integrin, wherein the tumor expresses an amplified or activated version of a receptor protein kinase.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the receptor protein kinase is selected from the group consisting of ErbB2 ~~erbB2~~, EGF-R, Met and Ron.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the individual is human.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the tumor is breast cancer or prostate cancer.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antibody.

21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antisense oligonucleotide.

22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the therapeutic agent is an RNAi species.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of administering to the individual an inhibitor of a receptor protein tyrosine kinase.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the receptor protein tyrosine kinase is selected from the group consisting of ErbB2, ~~erbB2~~, EGF-R, Met and Ron.